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20 JUL 1977

(596)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Acting Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: William W. Wells
Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT: Special Coordination Committee Submission
[REDACTED]

1. Action Requested: [REDACTED]

2. Background: In February of this year the SCC reviewed and made recommendations to the President on all ongoing CIA covert action and certain sensitive intelligence collection programs. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] At SCC/SAWG meetings on 31 May and 17 June 1977 the terms of reference for this report were discussed and formalized. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in countries which have been publicly accused of human rights abuses in national and international media or in reports made by organizations such as Amnesty International and United Nations affiliated bodies. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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ii. Country Statement - Chile

A. Resume of Internal Security Situation

1. Following the September 1973 overthrow of the Allende Government, the Chilean military junta moved quickly and successfully against leftist opposition groups. At the present time, there is no internal threat to the GOC from dissident or revolutionary groups, and no revolutionary group has the strength to mount an effective campaign against the government. Nevertheless, the Chilean Government has continued to renew at six-month intervals the extraordinary police powers which it assumed following the coup, claiming that the internal situation is still serious enough to justify a state of internal siege. At periodic intervals, the government has engaged in concentrated arrest operations against leftist leadership elements. Early this year, the situation seemed to be improving, and Embassy reporting reflected the hope that a permanent policy change had been made. A recent increase in the number of "unexplained disappearances," however, has again raised the question of illegal detentions.

2. [REDACTED]
that the Pinochet Government, concerned over the lack of foreign investment in Chile and the reduction of U.S. military and economic aid, is seriously considering efforts to improve its performance on human rights. In early July 1977 President Pinochet ordered the Ministers of Interior, Defense, Justice and Foreign Relations, as well as the Director of the Directorate of National Intelligence (DINA), to submit a study by the end of the month on reducing the existing state of siege to a lower level of internal emergency. The Director of the DINA was also ordered to prepare a study for the conversion of that organization into a strictly intelligence gathering agency.

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B. Role the Security Service Plays in the Denial of Human Rights

DINA was created in 1973 as an all-service (military gendarmerie) intelligence organization with responsibility for both internal and external security, and responsible directly to President Augusto Pinochet. The President and the DINA Director have believed, at least until very recently, that a serious subversive threat has existed in Chile and that the methods used by DINA to eliminate that threat have been entirely justified. DINA, which has the primary responsibility for countering subversion, has regularly violated human rights. Some military officers and civilian officials of the Chilean Government have suggested to President Pinochet that he replace the DINA Director and dismantle, or at least decentralize, DINA. The Director of DINA has apparently paid little heed to recommendations made by this Agency that he act with restraint.

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